REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 1, 2008

The Wethersfield Town Council held a meeting on Monday, December 1, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Silas Deane Middle School.

Present: Councilors Cascio, Console, Forrest, Hemmann, Kotkin, Roberts, Walsh, Deputy Mayor Montinieri, and Chairperson Adil

Also present: RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant Town Manager, Lisa Hancock, Finance Director, and Dolores G. Sassano, Town Clerk

PROCLAMATIONS

WETHERSFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chairperson Adil presented a Proclamation to Officers Ronald Floyd, Anthony DeMonte, and Michael Wren for their action in handling a situation with a very dangerous individual. He said that these three gentlemen represent what is best of the community and the Police Department. He thanked them for their service to the Town.

WETHERSFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT – NATIONAL SAFE DRIVING AWARD

Chairperson Adil presented a Proclamation to the Wethersfield Volunteer Fire Department for obtaining the National Safe Driving Award for maintaining zero traffic accidents for the 2007-2008 year.

Chuck Flynn, Fire Chief, said that this award goes to all of the men and women who dedicate themselves week in and week out to safe driving. He thanked the Town Council for supporting the training budget so that driver training can continue.

WETHERSFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT – RESCUE IN THE CT RIVER

Chairperson Adil presented a Certificate of Recognition to members of Company One and Company Two who took part in a water rescue on the Connecticut River on October 27, 2008.

Chuck Flynn, Fire Chief, thanked the Town Council for the Proclamations.

WETHERSFIELD BOYS SOCCER TEAM – STATE CHAMPIONS

Chairperson Adil presented Michael Kohlhagen, Superintendent of Schools and members of the Wethersfield Boy's Soccer Team a Proclamation for their honor as State Champions. He said that as the Mayor and as a parent of a player he is so proud of this team.

Michael Kohlhagen, Superintendent of Schools, said that the members of this team were very skilled and determined and had a tremendous level of team and sportsmanship. He congratulated the team.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, presented the following update:

RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECTS/NEW BUSINESSES

1380 Berlin Turnpike – Jordan Lane Shopping Center – Little Caesars

A ribbon cutting was held on Monday November 10.

APPROVED DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS/UNDER CONSTRUCTION

UNDER PERMIT REVIEW

295 Ridge Road - Church Homes - Assisted Living

A CO has been issued for the renovation of this building to accommodate 13 condominium units. A preliminary plan has been submitted for the second phase of this project which would change the approved plans and include an assisted living facility. At the August 5 PZC meeting a zoning regulation amendment application was approved that would permit assisted living in this zone. The ALF phase of this project was approved by the PZC at their November 5 meeting.

411 Hartford Avenue – Buck Arts Academy

Plans have been submitted to HDC for demolition and renovation to the barns on this property to accommodate an arts academy. The PZC reviewed the plans at their October meeting.

1025 Silas Deane Highway – OR and L Construction – Wethersfield Shopping Center

Reviewing site plans for a 19,000 s.f. free standing, medical office building for the north end of this shopping center. The application will be reviewed again by the PZC at their December 2 meeting.

DEVELOPER/PROPERTY OWNER/REALTOR CONTACT

- We have been meeting on a preliminary basis with a new interested party working on plans for the Comstock Ferre property,
- Met with owner of Fun Zone to discuss developer interest in the property.
- Discussed possible redevelopment plans for property on the Berlin Turnpike.
- Discussed preliminary plans for the possible redevelopment of the former Weight Watchers building at 1000 Silas Deane Highway.

SILAS DEANE HIGHWAY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

- Met with CRCOG representative to discuss possible options and locations for new bus shelters at key locations on the Silas Deane Highway and in other locations in Town.
- Staff are preparing an additional STEAP application for the remaining funding necessary to complete the streetscape improvements in front of Town Hall.
- On December 10 at 4pm a brief ceremony will be held to celebrate the completion of phase 1 of the streetscape improvements in front of Town Hall.
- The proposed amendments to the zoning regulations affecting mixed use zoning is presently being reviewed by the PZC. A public hearing was held on November 18. Staff are providing responses and changes based upon comments made at the hearing in anticipation of the December 2 meeting.

OTHER NEWS AND INITIATIVES

Economic Development and Improvement Commission

- Wethersfield Life has graciously agreed to provide some monthly space for an update on economic
 development and EDIC initiatives. EDIC member Doug Sacks will be providing a summary of
 monthly activities to improve communications with residents and businesses.
- The Salute To Business event will be held on Wednesday December 3 at 5:30 at the Country Club.
- The Commission is working on the development of a Buy/Shop Wethersfield program and will present these ideas in the near future.
- Approved the award of an additional façade loan to the owner of the strip commercial plaza at 616-620 Silas Deane Highway (Mangia Pizza).
- Commission members have initiated a new phase of the business visitation program and have started to meet with the newest members of the business community 100 visits are planned.

Tourism

- The Agency submitted its first quarterly report for the Council.
- Volunteers are working on significant updates to the Historic Wethersfield website.
- The Holiday schedule for the Horse and Carriage rides has been distributed.

Redevelopment Agency

□ Staff have prepared an RFP for consulting services to prepare a redevelopment analysis and Plan for the Fun Zone property.

Preserve America

- The Steering Committee is meeting on November 24 to discuss implementation strategies for the Plan.
- We are continuing to work with the State on the awarding of \$115,000 towards the gateway project at Marsh Street. We are working on plans in anticipation of putting the project out to bid in the near future.

Councilor Forrest led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dolores Sassano, Town Clerk, took attendance.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri moved "TO TAKE ITEM B.2.A. – ENERGY CONSULTANT AWARD FROM THE TABLE FOR ACTION TONIGHT" seconded by Councilor Forrest.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Chairperson Adil stated there were no Hearing items and asked for public comments to begin.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Barbara Ruhe, 79 Main Street, said that she is part of the loyal opposition. She spoke to the Governor about the budget. She is not a person who believes in doom and gloom but one who believes in reality. She thinks that the State has taxed and spent itself into a rather large hole.

The budget deficit is growing. The State is going to need to get back to core services; those that have to do with the health and welfare and safety of the citizens. Republicans are not against children. The Town is going to have to do some critical things. The Town has to spend money on things that make a difference in people's lives. Land needs to be preserved and housing, too. Lights are not need on the football field. The Town needs new and creative thinking, such as if a child could graduate from high school in less than four years the Town could save money. She said that she and her husband are both self employed and their medical insurance went up 36 percent to \$1300 a month. She said that she thinks that the Town needs to look carefully, everyone needs to give back. Her challenge is for everyone to give a little back. Give back the lights money, the Town doesn't need it that badly.

John Pappas, owner of Leo's Pizza, said that he was concerned about the approaching snow season and wanted to know the status of his business parking lot and if it were private or public. If it is private why are the cars ticketed; if public, why has the town not been keeping the area clean so the cars can get over the snow piled up behind them from the plows on the street. He was not able to resolve this problem with the Town Engineer and is now asking for the help of the Town Council.

Chairperson Adil asked that the Assistant to the Town Manager arrange a meeting to address Mr. Pappas' concerns.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Road, said that he would like to add to Mrs. Ruhe's comments. The State needs to get back to core services. Things have gotten way out of hand spending tremendous amounts of money. The Town should be looking at its largest unit with expenditures; the Board of Education. He handed out a spreadsheet on test scores. He reviewed the handout. Test results, overall, have gone down but the Board of Education has had a big increase over the last six years. The Town is not getting results for the children. The only group that has increased is the 7th grade. The Town needs to find areas to decrease costs. The Town Manager has good control over the Town side. It is the Board of Education side that needs change. There are too many people working there. Drastic changes need to be made to the Board of Education in the Town of Wethersfield.

George Ruhe, 956 Cloverdale Circle, said that he is trying to keep track on what is going on in Town. In listening to the State delegates earlier tonight was to get more money so that more money can be spent. The Governor just today said that the State is in a recession. Everyone else knew that for along time. The Town Council needs to understand that. Mr. Fonfara said that he hates to cut peoples pay but the people need to know that government is not exempt from sharing the pain of the citizens of the country. When the people are losing jobs by the millions, government has to take a close look at the budget. Think not in terms of getting free money. There is no such thing as free money. The Town is a microcosm of the world. The challenges that are facing the National government are those that Town will face. Think in terms of reducing costs and the incongruities that are discussed like lights on the football field and trying to be more "green". The Fire Department responded to an incident on Cloverdale Circle recently. Leaves were not an obstruction but on many roads in Town there are many cars parked on streets interfering with sightlines. The Town Manager should be more aware of these problems.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Hemmann said that the MDC budget was passed with a 1.20 decrease. The ad valorum tax to member Towns is back to the 2000 level.

Councilor Cascio said that he attended the Channel 14 TV meeting in November. They are in good shape and have a lot of volunteers. They are trying to purchase some replacement equipment. The equipment is being used constantly.

Councilor Forrest said that the Conservation Commission continues to meet and discuss the Beaver Brook. There is a recreation component to the project and it will be discussed with Park and Recreation.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri said that the Town Hall/Library Renovation Committee continues to oversee the finish work of the project. The shelving arrived and the items in storage are being returned back to the Library. A late January start date is being used. The Town side punch list is being completed and Town Council Chambers should be finished by the end of the month. The Tourism Commission met and distributed information on website hits. The Commission will have a representative at an upcoming meeting to discuss it further.

Councilor Console said that he attended the Thanksgiving service at the First Church of Christ on Thursday. He thanked the congregation for the invitation.

Councilor Hemmann asked what needs to be done to get the report back from the Energy District. She said that the Town Council came to the consensus to do a study and wondered when the information would be back.

Chairperson Adil said that he has been trying to get the other Mayor's to join in on the idea and form a larger District. He has had conversations with other Energy Consultants that have said that the Town doesn't need to form a committee to ask for the study to be done.

COUNCIL ACTION

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, AND APPOINTMENTS FOR ACTION

Deputy Mayor Montinieri moved "TO APPOINT DANIEL A. CAMILLIERE AS THE TOWNS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION FOR A TERM STARTING JANUARY 5, 2009 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014" seconded by Councilor Roberts.

Councilor Console said the Mr. Camilliere will be an excellent addition to the Commission and brings a lot to the table.

Chairperson Adil congratulated former Mayor Camilliere on his appointment, noting he had previously served on the Metropolitan District Commission. He thought Mr. Camilliere was a good choice and would serve Wethersfield well. He also thanked John McAulffe, the outgoing

representative for his great service to the Town for the past five years and wished him continued good health and success in his endeavors.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-1. Councilor Hemmann abstained.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri moved "TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS, ARTICLE VIII, CHAPTER 10 SECTION 24, DURING THE SPECIAL REVALUATION YEAR FROM JANUARY 1, 2009 TO APRIL 30, 2009: MAUREEN A. HOROWITZ AND BRENT M. OWEN" seconded by Councilor Roberts.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Cascio moved to "TO APPOINT GEORGE W. COTE TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS, ARTICLE VIII, CHAPTER 10 SECTION 24, DURING THE SPECIAL REVALUATION YEAR FROM JANUARY 1, 2009 TO APRIL 30, 2009" seconded by Councilor Hemmann.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Councilor Forrest moved to "AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR ENERGY CONSULTING SERVICES TO THE CONNECTICUT CENTER FOR ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,822, FOR ITEMS 1* AND 2** OF THE ATTACHED SCOPE OF WORK" seconded by Councilor Walsh.

1 *Energy Plan:

- 1A Coordination with Town Officials and Citizens Energy Committee
- 1B Develop Energy Plan (Technical/Financial Pro Forma for Four Municipal Facilities Included at No Cost)
- 1C Demand Response: Advise the Town Regarding Demand Response Options15% of the demand response payment paid by a demand response provider to the Town; No additional cost for Energy Plan 1D Energy Procurement: Advise Town on Energy Procurement
- Paid by an Energy Supplier that the Town contracts with for its energy supply. Such compensation shall not exceed \$0.002 per kilowatt-hr (kWh) of electricity supplied by Energy Supplier; No additional cost for Energy Plan
- 1E Energy Improvement Districts: Assess the Town for Favorable Locations Developed in Coordination with the Town. Costs included in Energy Plan **Subtotal (1): \$24,653**

2 * Benchmarking for Buildings:

2A Collect Data for Two Municipal Facilities and Benchmark Selected Buildings 2B Evaluate Opportunities to Improve Energy Management for Two Selected Buildings **Subtotal (2): \$4,169**

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that this item was tabled at the October 20th meeting. It is a contract award from a request for proposals to hire someone to create an

energy plan for the Town and get specific ideas about what to do to conserve energy and save money.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Walsh moved "TO AUTHORIZE THE WETHERSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO SUBLEASE SPACE IN THE KEENEY CULTURAL CENTER TO THE WETHERSFIELD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TO WORK WITH THE WETHERSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO INCORPORATE THE SUGGESTED CHANGES FROM THE TOWN ATTORNEY INTO THE ARRANGEMENT" seconded by Deputy Mayor Montinieri.

Rae Ann Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that this is a sub-lease of space at the Kenney Cultural Center for use by the Chamber of Commerce. She stated that the Town Attorney had some minor suggestions for Town Manager Bonnie Therrien to include: "1. In Section 17 Indemnification, we suggest deleting the words "Lessor and" from line 1 and from subsections (ii), (iii) and (iv) since the Town (the Lessor) is not a direct party to the Sublease and we do not want to create indemnification obligations; 2. In Section 18, delete the phrase "without the express prior written consent of Lessee, which shall not be unreasonably withheld." This emphasizes that the Chamber does not have the right to sublease further. If we want to waive that provision because we like the proposed sublessee, we can always do so if we want to later on; and 3. In Section 6B, keep in mind that the Town is paying the utilities for the next five years. The Town may wish to consider some type of utility surcharge to the Chamber reflecting some portion of the utility costs."

Deputy Mayor Montinieri thought it may create additional revenue to help the Historical Society offset expenses.

Councilor Walsh said that the money will be going back to the Historical Society.

Chairperson Adil endorsed the proposal and thought that it would generate money for the Historical Society especially given the higher costs of running it. He appreciates all of the work by those involved in the lease process.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0

Councilor Kotkin moved "TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR AUDITING SERVICES TO BLUM SHAPIRO FOR THREE ADDITIONAL YEARS, BEGINNING WITH THE 2008-09 FINANCIAL AUDIT AT A COST OF \$38,400" seconded by Councilor Roberts.

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that the Finance Director has requested the renewal of the contract to Blum Shapiro for three years. She has heard that the rates are increasing for those going out for requests for payment. The Finance Director is confident that she can keep the increase for the final two years at a minimum.

Councilor Kotkin asked why three years?

Lisa Hancock, Finance Director, said that when the Town transferred over to Blum Shapiro a new methodology was used for accounting standards. The three years will give them time to become comfortable with the process and gives the Town some continuity. The cost increase is also a consideration.

Councilor Kotkin asked if this will bind the Town for three years. What if next year the Town sees a large increase? Would the Town be able to re-bid?

Lisa Hancock, Finance Director, said that she can negotiate that through the contract process.

Councilor Kotkin said that this motion is to negotiate the first year contract at \$38,400 and that there would be an out if the fees in year two or three would be too high.

Lisa Hancock, Finance Director, said that has been an option right along.

Councilor Kotkin said that the auditor presented the report last year to the Budget and Finance Sub-committee. He did a very good job on the audit presentation.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri said that he supports the Finance Director's concept but had a few questions on procedure. Technically, the firm is in the last year of an extension, the contract has not expired. Is the Town not required to go out to RFP? Wouldn't it be better to have a one year renewal with two extensions so that the Town doesn't lock into a three year contract?

Lisa Hancock, Finance Director, said that the goal of going three years is to keep the cost down and keep the same firm. As far as going out for RFP, the Town Council tonight would be waiving that process.

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that the motion is the award of a contract and would waive the RFP process. She recommends that the motion state to award the contract for the 2008-2009 financial audit with the option to renew the contract for two additional years. It says to Blum Shapiro that the Town has the intent to work with them but it does not lock the Town Council into something that the Town does not have a firm price for.

Councilor Roberts said that the motion states a three year contract starting in the 2008-09 year at a price of \$38,400.

Chairperson Adil said that the intent was for that to be the price for the first year. The motion should be amended.

Councilor Kotkin "TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR AUDITING SERVICES TO BLUM SHAPIRO FOR THE 2008-09 FINANCIAL AUDIT AT A COST OF \$38,400 WITH THE OPTION TO RENEW THE CONTRACT FOR TWO ADDITIONAL ONE YEAR TERMS PREDICATED UPON AGREEMENT OF FEE" seconded by Councilor Roberts.

Councilor Kotkin asked if the final numbers for the 2007-08 fiscal year were what the Finance Director had thought they would be?

Lisa Hancock, Finance Director, said yes they were.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0

Councilor Walsh moved "TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR, AND ACCEPT IF AWARDED, \$50,000 IN FUNDING FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR INVASIVE PLANT CONTROL IN THE 1860 RESERVOIR" seconded by Deputy Mayor Montinieri.

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that this is a grant that the Director of Public Works was aware of for \$50,000 for funding for invasive plants in the Reservoir. The Town has \$50,000 for the match. The 1860 Reservoir is one of the Goff Brook watershed bodies of water that has public access. The \$100,000 will take care of the invasive plants in that pond.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri said that he attended the meeting by the engineering firm that presented the three water sources that were in play with the invasive plants. The \$50,000 Capital Improvement budget was initially meant to be divided by the three. If the Town can get \$50,000 for this grant, he supports it but has anyone addressed the issue that money for the other two bodies of water will have to be put on hold.

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that she has not discussed the ramification of the other bodies of water. The thinking was that in getting this grant at least one body of water would be cleaned.

Deputy Mayor Montineri said that the treatments being proposed for the \$50,000 would not solve the problem but slow down the growth. Will this put the other bodies of water in peril?

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that she will speak to the Director of Public Works on this issue.

Chairperson Adil said that he has gotten complaints by residents about the 1860 Reservoir. He supports this motion.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0

BIDS

Councilor Forrest moved "TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR HARTFORD AVENUE STORM DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS TO ENGINEERED SEPTIC OF ESSEX, CONNECTICUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH BID SPECIFICATIONS AND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,945" seconded by Councilor Kotkin.

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that this is work that the Town hopes will improve long standing drainage issues. It will connect the drainage collection system on Hartford Avenue from the existing system west to Sacred Heart Church. It is about 200 linear feet. It will hook this section up to storm drains and help with Meggat Park area. It will require the removal of some trees.

Councilor Roberts said that it looks like there were 19 bidders and they seem to be all over the place. Has anyone checked out this company? It is so much lower.

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that the Director of Public Works is confident that this bidder can perform the work. There were four bids under \$20,000.

Councilor Hemmann said that on the second and third page of bids under the insurance there are no checks. Does that mean they were not completed?

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that no check means they were not compliant.

Councilor Hemmann said that she is concerned with the bids too. Why is there such a disparity between what the Town had for a bid price and what was received?

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that she can't speak to the Town's estimate of the project. The Director of Public Works said that the disparity may be due to a lack of work at this point in time. She said she can request a better explanation.

Councilor Hemmann said that the highest bidder was lower than the estimation. It gives her pause.

Councilor Forrest said that there were 19 vendors who responded to this bid. In recent years, the Town has had trouble getting vendors to bid. Have you seen more vendors bidding on other bids and if so why?

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that the assessment that there is less business out there is accurate. This is the first bid that the Town has seen evidence of this.

Councilor Console said a bid estimate for \$55,000 and a bid of \$14,000 is a huge difference even for people looking for work. He asked why the Director of Public Works wasn't at the meeting to answer these questions.

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that she thought she would be able to answer the questions.

Councilor Console said that he thinks the bid should be taken back and looked at more carefully to see what the differences are.

Deputy Mayor Montinieri asked if the removal of the trees was consistent with all of the specifications.

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that the Town may be taking the trees down itself.

Deputy Mayor Montninieri asked what the timeline was for this project. Is it weather driven?

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that it is weather driven. If the weather holds they may be able to start the project.

Councilor Kotkin asked when the bid prices expired.

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that she believes the prices hold for either 30 or 90 days depending on the bid specifications.

Councilor Kotkin said that he is inclined to move forward with the bid. The Town won't lose the bid but the season if the Town Council voted on this at the next meeting. His inclination is to move forward with the caveat that the Director of Public Works is satisfied that the bidder is qualified to do the work.

Councilor Cascio asked if the residents in the area have been notified of the work.

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that the residents will be very happy about this work. She does not know if they have been notified but if the Town is removing trees a notification must go out.

Councilor Cascio asked if the trees being removed have any historical value to the Town.

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said that she does not have that information but can get it all for the Town Council.

Councilor Cascio said that he would like all of the information in order to make his decision.

Councilor Forrest asked what the reason was for the removal of the trees. The project is underground. Is it the location of the trees or the root structure?

RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, said the trees are in the way of the drainage system.

Chairperson Adil agreed that it was important that the Shade Tree Commission be made aware of this bid. The season is coming to a close. It makes sense to do the work sooner rather than later. It is refreshing to see 19 bidders and lower bidders.

Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilors Cascio, Console and Hemmann voted NAY. The motion passed 6-3-0

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, AND APPOINTMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION

RESOLUTION OF MUNICIPAL LEGISLATIVE BODY

RESOLVED, that Bonnie L. Therrien, Town Manager is hereby authorized to execute on behalf of this municipal corporation a personal services agreement with the State of Connecticut for financial assistance for Wethersfield High School Football Field Lighting.

IN ADDITION, that Bonnie L. Therrien, Town Manager, is hereby authorized to enter into such agreements, contracts and execute all documents necessary to said grant with the State of Connecticut.

BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that Bonnie L. Therrien WAS APPOINTED TOWN MANAGER, March 6, 2003. Her term of office began on April 21, 2003 and will continue indefinitely. As the Town Manager, Bonnie L. Therrien, serves as the Chief Executive Officer for Wethersfield, and is duly authorized to enter into agreements and contracts on behalf of the Town of Wethersfield.

MINUTES

Councilor Walsh moved "TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17, 2008" seconded by Councilor Forrest.

Councilor Walsh said on page 2 economic development has a misprint and it should be removed.

Councilor Kotkin said that in them middle of the next paragraph where it says the committee is also working with the Board of Education everything said from there on down was said by the Town Manager.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0

Councilor Walsh moved "TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17, 2008" seconded by Councilor Cascio.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. Councilor Forrest abstained. The motion passed 8-0-1

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Kotkin moved "TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS REAL ESTATE NEGOTIATIONS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS" seconded by Councilor Cascio. All Councilors present including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0. RaeAnn Palmer, Assistant to the Town Manager, and Dolores Sassano, Town Clerk were also present. No motions were made and no votes were taken.

At 9:50 p.m., Councilor Kotkin moved "**TO LEAVE EXECUTIVE SESSION**" seconded by Councilor Walsh. All Councilors present including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

Councilor Kotkin moved "TO AUTHORIZE A CHANGE TO THE TOWN CLERK'S SALARY TO \$60,000" seconded by Councilor Walsh.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:00 p.m., Councilor Forrest moved "TO ADJOURN THE MEETING" seconded by Councilor Roberts.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 9-0-0